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| 13 | Majia Bopez | |
| 14 | UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT | |
| 15 | CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA | |
| 16 | WESTERN DIVISION | |
| 17 | | |
| 18 | Mayra Lopez, | Case No.: |
| 19 | Plaintiff, | COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES |
| 20 | | |
| 21 | VS. | FOR VIOLATIONS OF: 1. THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER |
| 22 | Casa Linda Furniture Company, Inc., | PROTECTION ACT; |
| 23 | Defendant. | 2. THE ROSENTHAL FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT |
| 24 | | HIDA TOLLI DEMANDED |
| 25 | | JURY TRIAL DEMANDED |
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| 27 | | |
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Plaintiff, Mayra Lopez (hereafter "Plaintiff"), by undersigned counsel, brings the following complaint against Casa Linda Furniture Company, Inc. (hereafter "Defendant") and alleges as follows:

JURISDICTION

- 1. This action arises out of Defendant's repeated violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227, *et seq.* ("TCPA"), and repeated violations of the Rosenthal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, Cal. Civ. Code § 1788, *et seq.* ("Rosenthal Act").
- 2. Jurisdiction of this Court arises under 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3), Cal. Civ. Code 1788.30(f), 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and 28 U.S.C. § 1367.
- 3. Venue is proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), where the acts and transactions giving rise to Plaintiff's action occurred in this district and/or where Defendant transacts business in this district.

PARTIES

- 4. Plaintiff is an adult individual residing in Los Angeles, California, and is a "person" as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 153(39) and Cal Civ. Code § 1788.2(g).
 - 5. Plaintiff is a "debtor" as defined by Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.2(h).
- 6. Defendant is a business entity located in Los Angeles, California, and is a "person" as the term is defined by 47 U.S.C. § 153(39) and Cal Civ. Code § 1788.2(g).

7. Defendant, in the ordinary course of business, regularly, on behalf of itself or others, engages in the collection of consumer debts, and is a "debt collector" as defined by Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.2(c).

ALLEGATIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL COUNTS

- 8. Plaintiff is a natural person allegedly obligated to pay a debt asserted to be owed to Defendant.
- 9. Plaintiff's alleged obligation arises from a transaction in which property, services or money was acquired on credit primarily for personal, family or household purposes and is a "consumer debt" as defined by Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.2(f).
- 10. At all times mentioned herein where Defendant communicated with any person via telephone, such communication was done via Defendant's agent, representative or employee.
- 11. At all times mentioned herein, Plaintiff utilized a cellular telephone service and was assigned the following telephone number: 323-XXX-2245 (hereafter "Number").
- 12. Defendant placed calls to Plaintiff's Number in an attempt to collect a debt.
- 13. The aforementioned calls were placed using an automatic telephone dialing system ("ATDS") and/or by using an artificial or prerecorded voice ("Robocalls").

- 14. Upon answering Defendant's calls, Plaintiff was met with a prerecorded message requesting a return call.
- 15. In addition, Defendant excessively called Plaintiff's work telephone (818-XXX-7341) (hereafter "Work Number") in its attempt to collect the alleged debt from Plaintiff.
- 16. On multiple occasions, Plaintiff demanded all calls to her Number and to her Work Number cease.
- 17. Despite Plaintiff unequivocal demand that Defendant cease calling,

 Defendant continued to call Plaintiff's Number and her Work Number at an excessive

 and harassing rate.
- 18. On one occasion and during a live conversation, Defendant threatened to show up at Plaintiff's place of employment.
- 19. On another occasion, Defendant sent a facsimile to Plaintiff's place of employment inquiring about Plaintiff's wages and hiring date.
- 20. Defendant's facsimile revealed Plaintiff's Social Security number in plain sight, for any of Plaintiff's co-workers to see.
- 21. Furthermore, Defendant contacted members of Plaintiff's family in its attempt to collect the alleged debt and did so for purposes other than to obtain location information regarding Plaintiff.
- 22. On one occasion, Defendant outrageously sent a representative directly to the home of Plaintiff's parents.

- 23. During the visit, Defendant stated that Plaintiff owed a debt and demanded payment from Plaintiff father.
- 24. Defendant's automated calls directly interfered with Plaintiff's right to peacefully enjoy a service that Plaintiff paid for and caused Plaintiff a significant amount of anxiety, frustration and annoyance.
- 25. In addition, Defendant's outrageous debt collection practices caused Plaintiff to suffer a significant amount of anxiety, stress, frustration, and embarrassment.

COUNT I

VIOLATIONS OF THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT, 47 U.S.C. § 227, et seq.

- 26. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this complaint as though fully stated herein.
- 27. The TCPA prohibits Defendant from using, other than for emergency purposes, an ATDS and/or Robocalls when calling Plaintiff's Number absent Plaintiff's prior express consent to do so. *See* 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1).
- 28. Defendant's telephone system has the earmark of using an ATDS and/or using Robocalls in that Plaintiff, upon answering calls from Defendant, heard a prerecorded message.
- 29. Defendant called Plaintiff's Number using an ATDS and/or Robocalls without Plaintiff's consent in that Defendant either never had Plaintiff's prior express

consent to do so, or such consent was effectively revoked when Plaintiff requested that Defendant cease all further calls.

- 30. Defendant continued to willfully call Plaintiff's Number using an ATDS and/or Robocalls, knowing that it lacked the requisite consent to do so in violation of the TCPA.
- 31. The TCPA creates a private right of action against persons who violate the Act. *See* 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3).
- 32. As a result of each call made in violation of the TCPA, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of \$500.00 in statutory damages.
- 33. As a result of each call made knowingly and/or willingly in violation of the TCPA, Plaintiff may be entitled to an award of treble damages.

COUNT II

VIOLATIONS OF THE ROSENTHAL FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, Cal. Civ. Code § 1788, et seq.

- 34. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this complaint as though fully stated herein.
- 35. The Rosenthal Act was passed to prohibit debt collectors from engaging in unfair and deceptive acts and practices in the collection of consumer debts.
- 36. Defendant caused Plaintiff's telephone to ring repeatedly or continuously to annoy Plaintiff, in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.11(d).

- 37. Defendant communicated with Plaintiff's employer over the telephone for a purpose other than to verify Plaintiff's employment without first sending a written communication, in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.12(a).
- 38. Defendant communicated with Plaintiff's family regarding the alleged consumer debt and for a purpose other than to locate the Plaintiff, in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.12(b).
- 39. Defendant did not comply with the provisions of 15 U.S.C. § 1692, *et seq.*, in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.17.
- 40. Plaintiff was harmed and is entitled to damages as a result of Defendant's violations.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendant for:

- A. Statutory damages of \$500.00 for each call determined to be in violation of the TCPA pursuant to 47 U.S.C.§ 227(b)(3);
- B. Treble damages for each violation determined to be willful and/or knowing under the TCPA pursuant to 47 U.S.C.§ 227(b)(3);
- C. Actual damages pursuant to Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.30(a);
- D. Statutory damages of \$1,000.00 for knowingly and willfully committing violations pursuant to Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.30(b);